

CLEAN VERSION OF REWRITTEN, ADDED, AND/OR CANCELLED CLAIMS PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(i)

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 9, 10, 29, and 30.

Please replace the previously pending Claim with the following Claim having the same number.

1. (Twice Amended) A variant of a polypeptide of interest comprising a T-cell epitope, wherein said variant differs from said polypeptide of interest by having an altered T-cell epitope such that said variant produces an immunogenic response in an individual which is greater than the immunogenic response produced by said polypeptide of interest, wherein said T-cell epitope of said polypeptide of interest is altered to produce said variant.

Please add the following new Claim:

31. (New) A variant of a polypeptide of interest comprising at least one T-cell epitope, wherein said variant differs from said polypeptide of interest by having at least one altered T-cell epitope, such that said variant produces an immunogenic response in an individual which is greater than the immunogenic response produced by said polypeptide of interest, wherein said at least one T-cell epitope of said polypeptide of interest is altered to produce said variant.

REMARKS

The present application was originally filed with 28 Claims. In a Preliminary Amendment mailed July 17, 2001, Claims 2, 3, and 14-28 were cancelled without prejudice and Claims 29 and 30 were added. Thus, Claims 1, 4-13, 29 and 30 were pending. In response to the present Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has restricted the Claims into two Groups, with Claims 1, 4-10 and 29-30 in Group I, and Claims 11-13 in Group II. In a Response filed on October 9, 2002, Applicants elected the Claims in Group I with traverse, and cancelled Claims 11-13. Thus, Claims 1, 4-10 and 29-30 were pending in the present application. In the present